

2016 Read to be Ready Summer Grant Program

Read to be Ready aims to increase the percentage of third grade students reading proficiently to **75 percent by 2025**. The summer grant program promotes this effort by funding camps that **support the reading and writing development** of rising first, second, and third grade students.

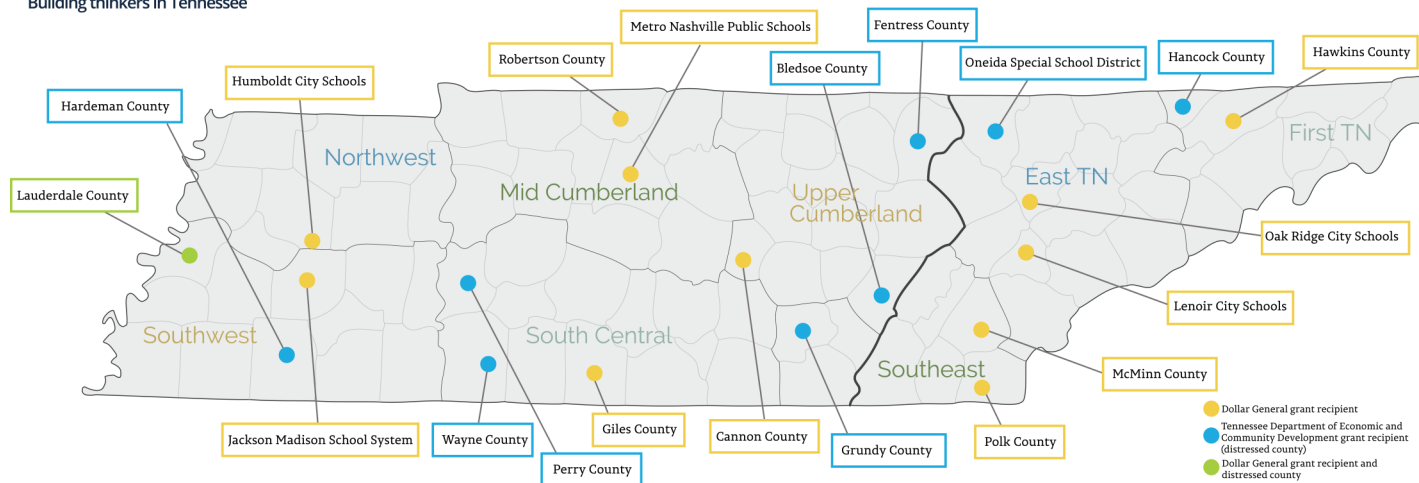
This grant program was designed to serve low-income students who experience the greatest summer learning loss. Preventing this loss will **better prepare students** to attain the knowledge and skills they need to read proficiently by the end of third grade.

In February, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation gave a **\$1 million gift** to be used over three years to fund this summer programming in Tennessee. This year, the department received **224 proposals**, and **12 programs** across the state were funded.

After seeing this response, the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development funded **8 additional summer programs** in distressed counties, which rank in the bottom 10 percent of the nation's counties on the basis of per capita income, poverty, and unemployment.

READ TO BE READY SUMMER GRANT RECIPIENTS

Building thinkers in Tennessee



20
Program
Sites

140
Educators
Trained

500+
Students
Served

11,700+
Total Books
Sent Home

2016 Read to be Ready Summer Grant Program

21
Books Sent
Home per Child

Books Sent Home Per Child: This metric represents the number of **new, high-quality books** each camp participant received to place in his or her at-home library. The average number of books sent home per child across all programs was 21.

11,785
Total Books
Sent Home

Total Books Sent Home: This metric represents the **total** number of **new, high-quality books** each site sent home with students. The total number of books that were sent home with students across all programs was 11,785.

598
Family Members
Engaged

Family Members Engaged: This metric represents the number of **family members** who engaged in camp activities, including field trips, literacy nights, and camp celebrations. The total number of family members engaged across all programs was 598.

23,800+
Hours of Reading
& Writing

Hours of Reading & Writing: This metric represents the number of hours that students spent **reading** and **writing** while they attended camp. The total number of hours students spent reading and writing at camp exceeded 23,800 hours across all sites.

574
Students Served

Students Served: This represents the number of struggling readers in first through third grade who attended the Read to be Ready programs this summer and received high-quality literacy instruction.

Results from 2016 Camps*

Fluency increased by an average of 23 percent.

Fluency refers to a child's ability to smoothly and accurately read aloud. Fluency is known to be a strong predictor of later reading comprehension.

Decoding ability increased by an average of 44 percent.

Decoding refers to a child's ability to sound out words from print. It is what allows children to read words that they have never encountered.

Phonemic awareness increased by an average of 66 percent.

Phonemic awareness refers to a child's ability to recognize and manipulate letter sounds. Children with low phonemic awareness are much more likely to struggle with reading.

95 percent of camps reported an increase in student confidence and interest.

*Because of differing data collection methods, the data analysis above is based on those students across all program sites that were assessed on a particular skill at the beginning and end of camp.